

Examiner's Amendment

1. An examiner's amendment to the record is attached. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mike Shea (Reg. 34,725) on August 25, 2009.

3. In the claims:

- Claim 1 line 2 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 8 line 4 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 12 line 2 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 12 last line please replace the word – therefor -- with – for
the program –

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- Claim 21 line 2 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 22 line 3 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 22 line 11 please replace the phrase – a first execution of the
program – with – proper operation of the program in the user
system is confirmed --
- Claim 24 line 2 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Claim 24 line 18 please replace the phrase – may be – with the
word -- are –
-
- Claim 25 line 1 please replace the phrase – transmitting receiving –
with -- transmitting **and** receiving –
-
- Claim 25 line 5 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
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- Claim 33 line 2 please replace the phrase – may be – with the word
-- are –
- Please amend claims 23-24 and 31 as shown below

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Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A program receiving method, comprising:

transmitting, by a user system to which one or more expansion units are ~~may be~~ attached, a request to a server without selecting specific program-related information, the request requesting the server to provide a list of programs which can be supplied by the server;

transmitting, by the user system, an operating environment of the user system to the server;

receiving, by the user system, a program list sent from the server which prioritizes programs that are likely to be operable in an operating environment of the user system based on the operating environment transmitted from the user system;

transmitting by the user system via a network to the server an order for a program selected from the program list;

receiving the program from the server via the network in response to the order;

executing the program to thereby confirm proper operation of each expansion unit by the program; ~~and~~

transmitting a notification of operation confirmation via the network to the server ~~so as~~ to allow the server to confirm the proper operation state of each expansion unit of the user system; and

receiving a request for payment for the program from the server after the proper operation state is confirmed.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A program receiving apparatus, to which one or more expansion units are ~~may be~~ attached, for receiving a program from a server via a network, comprising:

user-side transmitting means for transmitting a request via the network to the server without selecting specific program-related information, the request requesting the server to provide a list of

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programs which can be supplied by the server to the user system, and for transmitting an operating environment of the user system from the user system via the network to the server;

user-side receiving means for receiving from the server a program list which prioritizes programs that are likely to be operable in an operating environment of the program receiving apparatus based on the operating environment transmitted from the user system and for receiving from the server a program selected from the program list;

user-side operation judging means for executing the received program, thereby confirming proper operation of each expansion unit by the program; ~~and~~

operation confirmation notification transmitting means for, upon the user-side operation judging means executing the received program, transmitting a notification of operation confirmation to the server ~~so as to~~ allow the server to confirm the proper operation state of each expansion unit; and

the user-side receiving means receiving a request for payment for the program from the server after the proper operation state is confirmed.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A method performed by a user system, to which one or more expansion units are ~~may be~~ attached, to obtain a program from a server, comprising:

transmitting from the user system to the server a request without selecting specific program-related information, the request requesting the server to provide a list of programs which can be supplied by the server to the user system;

transmitting from the user system to the server an operating environment of the user system;

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receiving from the server a program list prioritizing programs that are likely to be operable in the operating environment of the user system based on the operating environment transmitted from the user system;

sending to the server a request for one of the programs selected from the list;

receiving the selected program from the server;

installing the received program;

executing the installed program to confirm proper operation of each expansion unit by the program; ~~and~~

sending to the server a notification regarding the confirmation of operation; and

receiving a request for payment for the program from the server after the sending of notification.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 571-272-3947. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on

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571-272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yasin M Barqadle/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2456